

Exhaustive Review of the City Government for 1877.
REDUCTION OF SALARIES.
Suggestions Concerning Taxation and the Public Debt.
FIRE AND POLICE DEPARTMENTS.

A Word for Rapid Transit, Education and Charity.

At the organization of the new Board of Aldermen yesterday Mayor Ely sent in his annual Message, of which the following is a condensed report:-

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, MAYOR'S OFFICE, 157 N. 2ND ST., N. Y., JAN. 7, 1878.

TO THE HONORABLE THE COMMON COUNCIL.

I am directed by the charter to communicate from time to time to your honorable body my views and opinions concerning the city government and its various branches. In regard to the system of our city government generally I would say that it appears to me to be unacceptably complex and deficient in regularity and unity. In illustration of this I would refer to a recent public conference concerning the street cleaning of the city, during which it was shown that in order to dispose of a load of street dirt the assent of three city and two State departments was needed, no one of which seemed to be in sympathy with any of the others. An attempt was made to winter, by a committee composed of some of our best citizens, to obtain relief from this condition of municipal confusion by means of legislation, and with this view bills were prepared which in their general provisions were approved by the Council to the Corporation, the Comptroller and myself; but notwithstanding the most earnest efforts of their framers, assisted by many honorable gentlemen in the Legislature, before these bills reached the Governor they had become so amended and altered that he felt constrained to withhold his approval. During the four months in which these bills were pending the employees of the city government were interested in the progress of events at Albany to such a degree as to seriously impair their usefulness in their respective departments. It is to be hoped that the enactment of the Legislature at its present session in reference to our city will be so free from personal and partisan aims as to meet the general approval of our citizens.

The economy and retrenchment which was sought to be obtained through compulsory legislation has been obtained in a measure, but the expenditure of money has been increased, and very large savings have been accomplished. The curtailment of expenses in the city departments has been accomplished, but the expenditure of money has been increased, and very large savings have been accomplished. The curtailment of expenses in the city departments has been accomplished, but the expenditure of money has been increased, and very large savings have been accomplished.

Public Works. Health.

1877.....	\$225,000	\$240,000	.....	\$450,000
1878.....	160,000	175,000	.....	335,000
1879.....	110,000	125,000	.....	235,000
1880.....	100,000	110,000	.....	210,000
1881.....	100,000	110,000	.....	210,000
1882.....	100,000	110,000	.....	210,000
1883.....	100,000	110,000	.....	210,000
1884.....	100,000	110,000	.....	210,000
1885.....	100,000	110,000	.....	210,000
1886.....	100,000	110,000	.....	210,000
1887.....	100,000	110,000	.....	210,000
1888.....	100,000	110,000	.....	210,000
1889.....	100,000	110,000	.....	210,000
1890.....	100,000	110,000	.....	210,000
1891.....	100,000	110,000	.....	210,000
1892.....	100,000	110,000	.....	210,000
1893.....	100,000	110,000	.....	210,000
1894.....	100,000	110,000	.....	210,000
1895.....	100,000	110,000	.....	210,000
1896.....	100,000	110,000	.....	210,000
1897.....	100,000	110,000	.....	210,000
1898.....	100,000	110,000	.....	210,000
1899.....	100,000	110,000	.....	210,000
1900.....	100,000	110,000	.....	210,000

Buildings, Police, Education, Fire Dept.

1877.....	\$70,000	\$100,000	\$2,500,000	\$1,000,000
1878.....	70,000	100,000	2,500,000	1,000,000
1879.....	70,000	100,000	2,500,000	1,000,000
1880.....	70,000	100,000	2,500,000	1,000,000
1881.....	70,000	100,000	2,500,000	1,000,000
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1897.....	70,000	100,000	2,500,000	1,000,000
1898.....	70,000	100,000	2,500,000	1,000,000
1899.....	70,000	100,000	2,500,000	1,000,000
1900.....	70,000	100,000	2,500,000	1,000,000

Judiciary and Taxes and City Officers, Assessors, Coroner.

1877.....	\$1,107,000	\$202,000	\$1,309,000
1878.....	1,107,000	202,000	1,309,000
1879.....	1,107,000	202,000	1,309,000
1880.....	1,107,000	202,000	1,309,000
1881.....	1,107,000	202,000	1,309,000
1882.....	1,107,000	202,000	1,309,000
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1897.....	1,107,000	202,000	1,309,000
1898.....	1,107,000	202,000	1,309,000
1899.....	1,107,000	202,000	1,309,000
1900.....	1,107,000	202,000	1,309,000

For many years past I think our system of taxation and expenditures has been radically wrong. In January we find it necessary to borrow money for the year's expenses of the city, and to continue the practice until the month of the year, when the taxes are paid. This is a very serious matter, and it is to be hoped that the Legislature will take steps to remedy this state of affairs. It is to be hoped that the Legislature will take steps to remedy this state of affairs. It is to be hoped that the Legislature will take steps to remedy this state of affairs.

Amount of the public indebtedness in January 1st, 1878.

Funded debt, payable from taxation and sinking fund.....	\$118,031,513 28	\$121,440,123 15
Unfunded debt, payable from taxation and sinking fund.....	28,200,247 40	31,050,007 54
Not permanent debt, payable from taxation and sinking fund.....	28,200,247 40	31,050,007 54
Temporary debt, payable from taxation and sinking fund.....	28,200,247 40	31,050,007 54
Revenue bonds, special.....	60,000 00	60,000 00
Revenue bonds, general.....	60,000 00	60,000 00
Revenue bonds, 1877.....	60,000 00	60,000 00
Revenue bonds, 1878.....	60,000 00	60,000 00
Revenue bonds, 1879.....	60,000 00	60,000 00
Revenue bonds, 1880.....	60,000 00	60,000 00
Revenue bonds, 1881.....	60,000 00	60,000 00
Revenue bonds, 1882.....	60,000 00	60,000 00
Revenue bonds, 1883.....	60,000 00	60,000 00
Revenue bonds, 1884.....	60,000 00	60,000 00
Revenue bonds, 1885.....	60,000 00	60,000 00
Revenue bonds, 1886.....	60,000 00	60,000 00
Revenue bonds, 1887.....	60,000 00	60,000 00
Revenue bonds, 1888.....	60,000 00	60,000 00
Revenue bonds, 1889.....	60,000 00	60,000 00
Revenue bonds, 1890.....	60,000 00	60,000 00
Revenue bonds, 1891.....	60,000 00	60,000 00
Revenue bonds, 1892.....	60,000 00	60,000 00
Revenue bonds, 1893.....	60,000 00	60,000 00
Revenue bonds, 1894.....	60,000 00	60,000 00
Revenue bonds, 1895.....	60,000 00	60,000 00
Revenue bonds, 1896.....	60,000 00	60,000 00
Revenue bonds, 1897.....	60,000 00	60,000 00
Revenue bonds, 1898.....	60,000 00	60,000 00
Revenue bonds, 1899.....	60,000 00	60,000 00
Revenue bonds, 1900.....	60,000 00	60,000 00

It is an improper and onerous exaction from the owner of the property, and second, it gives a fictitious value to the value of city property. It is to be hoped that the Legislature will take steps to remedy this state of affairs. It is to be hoped that the Legislature will take steps to remedy this state of affairs. It is to be hoped that the Legislature will take steps to remedy this state of affairs.

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THE OLD AND NEW BOARDS OF ALDERMEN.
WILLIAM R. ROBERTS ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE LATTER-HIS SPEECH AND OTHER PROCEEDINGS.

The old and the new Boards of Aldermen held sessions yesterday. The former body met at eleven o'clock for the last time, with Alderman Parry in the chair. Resolutions of thanks were passed complimentary to the retiring officials, when speeches were made by Alderman Gowing, Howland and others. The meeting was then adjourned sine die.

At twelve o'clock the Board of Aldermen for 1878 was called to order by Chief Clerk Twomey, twenty members being present. Messrs. Lewis and Phillips were absent, in consequence of the recent death of a relative.

Mr. Stuer was chosen temporary chairman, after which a ballot was taken for President, with the following result:-William R. Roberts, 12; William H. Gowing, 9; John J. Morris, 1; Bryan Kinty, 1. Alderman Roberts, having received a majority of the votes of members composing the Board, was then declared to be elected.

President Roberts' address:-
On assuming the chair President Roberts said:-
GENTLEMEN OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN:-In accepting the presidency of the Board to which you have elected me, I feel that I am assuming a heavy responsibility, and I trust in return to receive your confidence and support as you gave to my predecessor, who for the past two years so ably discharged the duties which devolve upon the chair.

By the awards of contracts made by the Gas Commission in December last, for lighting the city for the year 1877, the total cost of lighting the city of New York for the years from 1874 to 1877, both inclusive, with the actual number of lamps burnt, and the average cost per lamp for the gas, lighting, &c., was:-

Total Cost Number of Lamps Average Cost

Year.	Total Cost	Number of Lamps	Average Cost
1874.....	\$757,000 00	20,124	\$37 75
1875.....	741,100 00	20,159	36 78
1876.....	719,000 00	20,159	35 65
1877.....	632,576 24	20,917	30 45

The Fire Department appears to be conducted with increased economy and in an admirable state of usefulness and discipline. This is proven by the diminished number of fires, and the reduced rate of insurance demanded by the underwriters. The Department of Public Works has complied with a contract made with the City of New York, for the purpose of laying sewer pipes and put in additional dry hydrants on large mains, thus adding materially to the safety of the city.

The Police Department of the city being more extensive and having more appointments than any other city department, merits particular attention. In strength and efficiency it is worthy of high commendation. It is to be hoped that the Legislature will take steps to remedy this state of affairs. It is to be hoped that the Legislature will take steps to remedy this state of affairs. It is to be hoped that the Legislature will take steps to remedy this state of affairs.

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BROOKLYN AND GOVERNMENT.
Mayor Howell Desires Economy and Reform in the City Affairs.

Mayor Howell, of Brooklyn, sent in his first annual Message to the Board of Aldermen yesterday afternoon. He says that the time has come when the city is in a position to make a great improvement in its public affairs, and he desires to see the city government reformed and made more economical.

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